



VISION

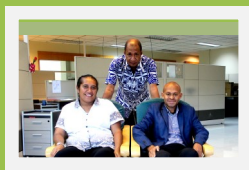
To be a vibrant, premier institution in pursuit of promoting good governance and quality leadership in PNG

MISSION

To promote and protect the integrity of our leaders and to help improve the work of government bodies and investigate any complaints against them to ensure there is good governance, accountability, transparency and quality leadership in the public sector

VALUES

- Unity
- Impartiality
- Integrity
- Confidentiality
- Transparency
- Independence
- Professionalism



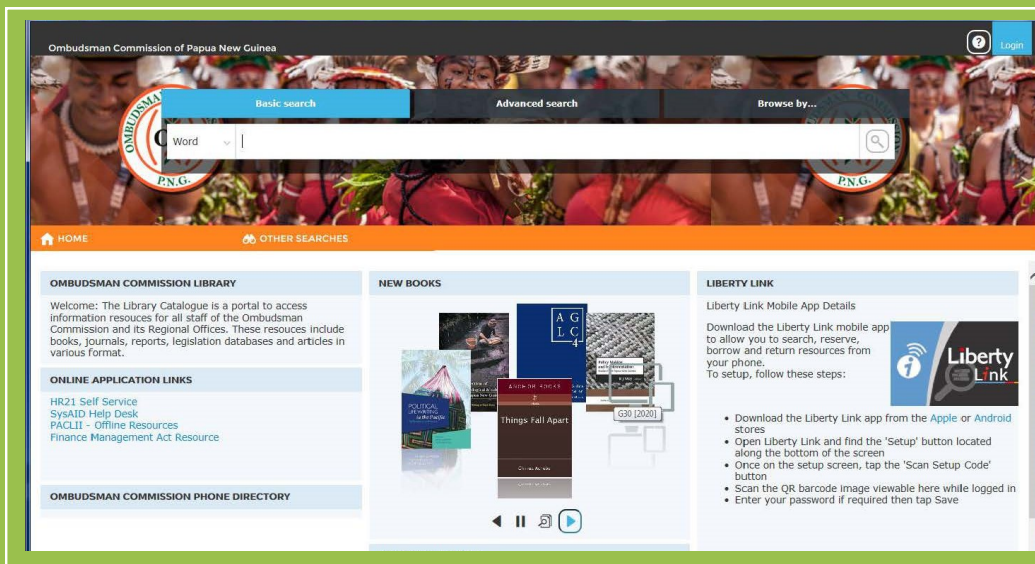
WASDOK

Nius

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THE BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE OMBUDSMAN COMMISSION



New Library system takes shape ... The Liberty Automated Library system home page when it was launched in October 2021.

OC goes automated with new library system

The Ombudsman Commission has adopted an automated library system that will be used to store and manage around 4000 files from as far back as 1975.

The Liberty Automated Library Management system is a dynamic filing system that is now in use by a few

notable organizations in PNG including, National Research Institute, the National Judicial Services and the University of Papua New Guinea.

The system hopes to modernize the way information is stored and managed in the commission and will help achieve the commission's vision to have a modernized library management system.

The system will also help get information to the regions in PNG under one common intranet.

This feature will help the regional officers access information like case files, annual reports, brochures, videos and pictures.

This wasn't the case over the years where the regions had

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Editorial

Libraries are an important part of a civilized and learned society.

Over the years the role of the library has changed and with the advent of technology the role of a librarian now becomes more diverse.

Most libraries are increasingly doing away with some aspects of printing of books and converting them to online or electronic articles.

Printed books face inevitable demise with the process of decay which has caused libraries to look for more durable, efficient, environment friendly and secured systems.

Librarians have evolved from collecting and cataloguing books to a now more information technology based concept.

Librarians are now the IT specialists, information managers, website developers and online learning experts who identify information resources and make them become online commodities.

Libraries are no longer just local amenities in schools, suburbs, towns and cities.

With information technology your little library can be accessed anywhere in the world and get subscriptions from all walks of life opening way to more opportunities financially.

Libraries are now part of a global information sharing system that can

be used by anyone at anytime at the click of the button.

Subscription has also become online and libraries now can make use of services such as security systems, online banking, and online shopping.

Libraries are treasures however, in recent times, they have become gold mines where people come in search of knowledge.

The Commission now has a chance to be part of that gold mine of information that will be made available online of course with the necessary filters to protect confidential information.

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Commission adopts new automated library system

difficulty accessing files.

The Liberty library's main features are:

- A dynamic Home Page
 - Management System consists of four (4) major modules;
 - Circulation that process the loans and returns of the library stock;
 - Catalogue that allows Resources and Copies to be easily imported, created, edited and deleted

- Management which contain functions, data lists and some system-wide settings and;

-Systems module used for technical nature.

The most difficult part of the process would be cataloguing all resources because the Commission has not been using a cataloguing system for a while.

About 4000 plus commission hard print resources such as books, reports, mon-

ographs and video and digital resources will be catalogued.

The system will give investigators easier access to case files and other important documents related to previous investigations.



Ombudsman Commission staff pose for a picture with workshop facilitators.

Officers attend GESI workshop

Thirty Ombudsman Commission officers attended a Gender Equity and Social Inclusion workshop at the Holiday Inn from the 9th to the 10th of September, 2021.

The workshop was run by the Department of Personnel Management.

The workshop featured two people living with disabilities who talked about their

experiences living in a society where most amenities only cater for able bodied people.

Many staff members expressed gratitude for the workshop as it opened their perspectives to many issues that affected gender equity and people living with disabilities and also realising some workplace environments which can become hindrances

to productivity.

For some it was an eye-opener to something they had never considered as important before and how they can help to solve problems related to gender and social inclusion.

OC completes legislative review into its enabling laws

The Ombudsman Commission has completed its first review into its enabling laws in order to improve its effectiveness as the watchdog.

The review which started in 2013 went through rigorous internal and external consultation at a cost of K600,000.

The review has come up with 35 proposed changes to the Organic Law on the Ombudsman Commission; the Organic Law on the Duties and Responsibilities of Leadership; the Leadership Code Alternative penalties Act 1975 and relevant provisions

in the Constitution.

Two of the most notable proposed changes in the review are the extension of jurisdiction of the Ombudsman Commission to include oversight of State Owned Entities and the increase in the amount of fine leaders will pay if they are found guilty under the Leadership Code.

The review began in 2013 under the then Acting Chief Ombudsman Phoebe Sangetari with funds allocated for it under the O'Neill-Dion government which adopted the review as part of its top 5 priorities

under the Alotau Accord 2.

The review went through extensive consultation internally and externally with submissions received from stakeholders from within the law and justice sector, the government sector and private citizens.

The findings of the review are now before the Parliament to deliberate on and pass into law.



Patriotic colours ... Commission staff from NGI Regional office in Kokopo (left) and the Port Moresby headquarters donning their Independence colours on Independence eve of 2021.



Mr Kapen bids farewell ... The Highlands Region will miss the familiar face of Mr Bill Kapen after he decided to call time on his career with the Commission in his capacity as Regional Manager Highlands. Pictured is Mr Kapen (left) receiving his deed of release from Ombudsman Kevin Kepore at the OC Headquarters in Port Moresby. Mr Kapen has been with the Commission for 14 years beginning as a senior investigator and making his way up to be the Regional Manager. The Ombudsman Commission wishes him all the best in his future ambitions.



Protection against the virus ...

OCPNG AROB Regional Manager Alice Gabina (left) and Systems and Networks officer Julie Menei receiving their COVID 19 vaccine shot in Buka, Autonomous region of Bougainville.



All opinions, statements and writings contained in the *Wasdok Nius* are those of the relevant authors and do not necessarily represent the opinions, statements, writings or views of the Ombudsman Commission of Papua New Guinea. The Commission issues no invitation to anyone to rely upon this newsletter and it intends by this statement to exclude liability for any such opinions, statements, writings and views.

OC files reference against certain provisions of ICAC

The Ombudsman Commission has filed a reference in the Supreme Court challenging the validity of certain provisions of the Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC).

The reference is to seek clarity on the certain section of the Act that relates to the purpose of the ICAC, qualified rights, duplication of functions, breach of human rights and the infringements in the functions of other Constitutional Offices.

The Chief Ombudsman Richard Pagen said the Commission's intention is clear and that

is every new law made must be in harmony with other existing laws of the land and especially the Constitution.

When a new Act of Parliament does not fulfill these requirements the Ombudsman Commission has the mandate to challenge such laws in court.

The ICAC Act was passed on the 12 November 2020 and after assessment on the new legislation, the Ombudsman Commission have taken the appropriate action.

The Commission is of the view that in its current form the ICAC Act is a mammoth

organization with powers without any oversight and the Ombudsman Commission is concerned that such laws may prove negative for our citizens as also can be abused by people in power against their rivals.

The case now is before the Supreme Court.



**Promoting Good Governance
and Quality Leadership**

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